



PATENT APPLICATION
Docket No. KWPT.P-006-DV

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Simon, Rainer Filing Date: June 24, 2003
Application No.: 10/604,064 Conf. No.: 1063
Title: Set-Down Box Art Unit: 1733

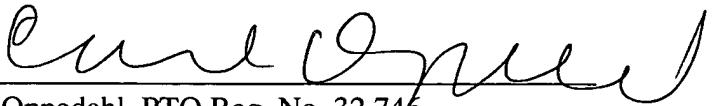
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P O Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Applicant requests that the references cited on the attached substitute form 1449 be included in the record of the above-referenced patent application. Copies of the references are provided herewith.

No fee is believed to be due with this paper as we have not received an action on the merits. However, if it is deemed necessary, the Commissioner is authorized to debit any additional fees deemed due from Deposit Account No. 15-0610.

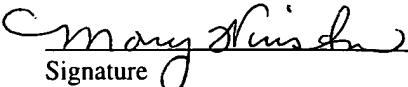
Respectfully submitted,
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CERTIFICATE OF FIRST CLASS MAIL UNDER 37 CFR § 1.8

I hereby certify that this paper and the attachments named herein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P O Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 2, 2004 by Mary Winston.

February 2, 2004
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Signature



ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. KWPT.P-006-DV
PATENT APPLICATION

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Applicant : Simon
Serial No. : 10/604,064
Filing Date : June 24, 2003
Confirmation No. : 1063
Title : Set-down Box

APPLICANT'S CONCISE STATEMENT OF RELEVANCE

Commissioner for Patents

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
P O Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Attached please find a concise statement of relevance from the client regarding the patents which are not in the English Language.

The invention relates to a set-down box of a labeling machine as well as a method of attaching labels on articles using a set-down box according to the invention. The set-down box comprises conveyor means, pressure means, means for vertically displacing those pressure means and driving means connected to a motor. The device according to the invention is characterized by a free-wheel of the means for vertically displacing the pressure means in one rotational direction of the motor.

According to the inventive method the labels are positioned above the surface of the articles to be labeled using the motor-driven conveyor. Subsequently, pressing means are displaced from its starting position to its end position by reversing the moving direction of the driving means. Finally, this moving direction of the driving means is once more reversed to return the pressing means to its starting position.

As a result of the free-wheel in one direction of the rotational direction of the motor, the invention is characterized by the fact, that no torque is transmitted onto the driving means neither during labeling nor after having reached its starting position again.

All documents listed in the search report of the German Patent and Trademark Office were categorized "A", generally describing the technological background of the invention without questioning novelty or inventiveness of the invention as claimed.

In view of DE 197 44 927 C1 the Examiner noted relevance concerning initial claims 1, 4 and 11 of the present application, especially in view of reference numbers 72 and 76 of DE 197 44 927 C1. The document describes a labeling machine for attaching long and slender labels comprising a sucking and conveying device which transfers the distinct labels onto the product to be labeled. According to DE 197 44 927 C1 the device is to be lifted and lowered via two synchronously moveable levers and a conveyor belt which is connected to a drive. The conveyor belt is running over a.m. driving roll (72) and detouring roll (76). As the drive is also used for moving the label conveyor belt the sucking device can only be disconnected from the drive by using a clutch system. If an expensive clutch system is not realized in the machine according to DE 197 44 927 C1, a torque is permanently effected on the levers moving the sucking device.

Regarding German utility model DE 87 06 948 U1 the Examiner noted a relevance concerning initial claims 1, 4, 5, and 11 of the application. DE 87 06 948 U1 describes a device for transferring self-adhesive labels from a conveyor belt onto an article to be labeled. After positioning the labels the conveyor belt stops. Subsequently, the labels are pressed onto the article by a rake which is moved by a pneumatic cylinder. But DE 87 06 948 U1 does neither disclose any connection between the drive of the conveyor belt and the rake drive nor a control system of the pneumatic cylinder.

Regarding German utility model DE 77 17 056 U the Examiner noted a relevance only concerning initial claims 9 and 10 of the application, directed to an inventive pressing plate characterized by a plurality of displaceable plungers attached to the plate. DE 77 17 056 U describes a device for pressing labels onto receptacles standing in an upright position and being transported by a conveyor belt. For the coordinated motion of the different parts of the device, the longer track 19 and the shorter track 4 as well as the conveyor belt 3 are driven by one motor unit (not shown in Fig. 1) using chains 27, 29 and 30. But DE 77 17 056 U does not describe any possibility of an additional transporting or conveying means being driven at one single rotary direction of the motor.

In view of DE 17 61 577 A, particularly in Fig. 5, the Examiner noted a relevance to initial claims 1 and 11 of the present application. DE 17 61 577 A describes a device for manually attaching labels to articles. This device comprises a finger lever connected to a slip clutch which is used for gradually transporting a conveyor band. After each transporting step the finger lever is brought back into its starting position while said slip clutch prevents the conveyor belt from sliding back. Thus DE 17 61 577 A does not disclose any pressing means, neither driven by a motor unit nor driven by the same motor as the conveyor band.

Finally, regarding DE 37 84 102 T2, in particular page 17 of this document, the Examiner noted a relevance to initial claims 1 and 11 of the present application. DE 37 84 102 T2 is the German translation of EP 0 249 314 B1 and discloses a device for automatically changing cassettes used in plants for reproducing cassettes suitable for video tape recorders (VTR). With reference to Fig. 9 of DE 37 84 102 T2 a device for ejecting the cassettes out of the distinct VTR's is described on pages 16 and 17 of the document mentioning freewheel gears 74 A and 77A.

These gears both act on one particular driving arm 74B and 77B, respectively. If the motor 71 is rotating in a first direction, gear 74A is transmitting the rotary motion to driving arm 74B whereas gear 77A is running in a freewheel mode and does not activate driving arm 77B. After changing the rotary direction of the motor, both gears act analogously. But DE 37 84 102 T2 does not describe a conveyor means and a pressure means both driven by one single motor using a one-directional freewheel for one of those means.

Respectfully submitted,

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BY APPLICANT**

Application No: 10/604,064
Filing Date: June 24, 2003
First Named Inventor: Simon, Rainer
Confirmation No.: 1063
Group Art Unit: 1733
Examiner Name:
Attorney Docket No.: KWPT.P-006-DV

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Office	Number	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document
	DE	1 761 577 ✓	Kaplan, Irving	November 12, 1970
	DE	3 784 102 ✓	Ohtsuka, Takashi	December 16, 1987
	EP	0 249 314 ✓	Ohtsuka, Takashi (EP version of DE 3784102.)	December 16, 1987
	DE	7 717 056 ✓	Kronseder, Hermann	May 28, 1977
	DE	8 706 948 ✓	Klinger, Max H.	July 2, 1987
	DE	19 744 927 ✓	Austermeier, Georg	October 29, 1998
	EP	0837000 ✓	Lupoli, et al.	April 22, 1998
	WO	97/32785 ✓	Hunt, et al.	September 12, 1997

This Information Disclosure Citation List is being submitted as a substitute for Form PTO-1449. The Examiner is requested to place his or her initials on the lines adjacent to the citations to indicate that the reference has been considered. The Examiner is further requested to fill in his or her name and the date the information was considered in blocks at the bottom of this substitute for Form PTO-1449.

Examiner: _____ Date Considered: _____